

GULF DEFENDER

WING MISSION: TRAIN THE WORLD'S BEST AIR SUPERIORITY TEAM FOR THE AIR FORCE
WING VISION: TEAM TYNDALL - TAKING AMERICA'S PREMIER AIR SUPERIORITY TRAINING INTO THE 21ST CENTURY

Vol. 61, No. 5

Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. *Gulf Defender*

Feb. 8, 2002

Field-training course open to personnel troops

SENIOR AIRMAN RUSSELL CROWE

325th Fighter Wing public affairs

Personnel airmen were officially welcomed into Silver Flag training in a ceremony held here recently. Maj. Gen. Michael McMahon, Air Force Personnel Center commander, cut the ribbon that officially marked the entry of the career field into the field-training program.

"We've learned a lot since Sept. 11, 2001," the general said. "But we've especially learned the importance of having a combat-ready Air Force. Never before have we had troops at so many bases utilizing the training they received here. The variety and number of bases we're at and the speed and precision we're using in fighting this war on terrorism is truly utilizing all the skills and training of all our folks."

The Silver Flag course, which is located at Tyndall Air Force Base, but is an Air Combat Command unit, teaches airmen from several career fields including civil engineering and services, how to build and run a bare-base operation at a forward-deployed location – something that's becoming more common across the Air Force.

Tech. Sgt. Farrell Thomas, Air Force Personnel Readiness programs chief at Randolph AFB, Texas, said the importance of this step is monumental.

●SEE TRAIN PAGE 4



Staff Sgt. Dan Neely

Walk this way

Ken Barrow, a CBS cameraman, films 95th Fighter Squadron maintainers as they conduct a foreign object damage sweep of the flightline here for the television series "American Fighter Pilots." CBS officially announced that the first of at least 8 one-hour episodes will debut 8 p.m. March 29. The series focuses on the training, culture and lifestyles of three Tyndall Air Force Base pilots and the challenges each face as they progress through the F-15 basic course.

Air Force remains committed to AEF rotation cycles

TECH. SGT. TIM DOUGHERTY

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — The combination of America's war on terrorism and steady state commitments worldwide has put increased strain on the Air Force's aerospace expeditionary forces. However, except for a few stressed ca-

reer fields, officials at the Pentagon say normal rotations should be back soon.

"Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper is committed to the AEF construct — a three-month deployment with a 12-month period at home," said Maj. Gen. Jeffrey B. Kohler, director of operational plans, deputy chief of staff for

air and space operations.

"Given the war on terrorism, we had to go through a momentary blip in our rotation schedule," he said. "However, it looks like we're going to be on time in bringing home about 90 percent of the people who are currently deployed. We will rotate the forces deployed for Op-

erations Enduring Freedom, Northern Watch and Southern Watch so that those who deployed first will be allowed to rotate home first to the maximum extent possible."

There are some exceptions, General Kohler said. While Air Force leaders are

●SEE AEF PAGE 10

Tyndall dominant in awards competitions

BRIG. GEN. WILLIAM F. HODGKINS

325th Fighter Wing commander



I thoroughly enjoy this time of year, when the pace of awards from the preceding year's competitions accelerates and the best of

the best are recognized for their outstanding achievements. I'm absolutely pleased to announce a bunch of awards went to some very deserving folks here.

To begin, it's my great pleasure to announce the 325th Fighter Wing's winners of the 2001 19th Air Force Flying Training Awards. Congratulations to **Capt. Max Marosko III**, 2nd Fighter Squadron, Instructor Pilot of the Year; **Capt. James Warf III**, 325th Air Control Squadron, Air Battle Manager Instructor of the Year; and **Staff Sgt. Eric Hamilton**, 325th ACS, Weapons Controller Instructor of the Year.

Maj. Gen. James Sandstrom, our 19th AF commander, said it best: "19th Air Force flying training instructors are the critical link in training world-class aircrews and air battle



"I'm absolutely pleased to announce a bunch of awards went to some very deserving folks here."

BRIG. GEN. WILLIAM F. HODGKINS

325th Fighter Wing commander

managers for the most capable air force in the world." I couldn't agree more. Congratulations to these three winners for their outstanding contributions to the 325th FW and Air Education and Training Command missions.

Congratulations also to our **325th FW Public Affairs Office**. They were more than dominant when the **2001 AETC Public Affairs Achievement Awards** were announced. Congratulations to **Capt. Chris Karns and his stellar PA team** for being recognized as the command's finest in these categories: **Director's Excellence Award**

(Large Wing) for the best overall public affairs program and the **Public Affairs Director's Award for special achievement for a planned single event** was earned for this year's work on the American Fighter Pilot television series. Also **Master Sgt. Rob Fuller** earned the **Outstanding Public Affairs Senior NCO of the Year** and **Outstanding Public Affairs Airman of the Year** honors went to **Senior Airman Russell Crowe**.

As part of the same AETC PA awards competition, the 325th FW was also recognized

●SEE AWARDS PAGE 5

Action Line

The Action Line is your direct line to me. It is one way to make Tyndall a better place to work and live.

Action Line calls are recorded and staffed through the proper agency. The goal is to provide you with an accurate, timely response. You must leave your name, phone number or address to receive a response.

Questions or comments of general interest will be published in this forum. This avenue should only be used after coordinating problems or concerns with supervisors, commanders, first sergeants or facility managers. If you're not satisfied with the response or you are unable to resolve the problem, call me at 283-2255.

For fraud, waste and abuse calls, you should talk to the office of inspections, 283-4646. Calls concerning energy abuse should be referred to the energy hot line, 283-3995.

BRIG. GEN. WILLIAM F. HODGKINS
325th Fighter Wing commander

Tax tips

Tax deadlines and extensions

Military members stationed here at Tyndall AFB should send their federal tax returns to the Florida Internal Revenue Service Center regardless of the state claimed for legal residency purposes. To avoid late penalties, your 2001 tax return must be postmarked by April 15. However, a number of extensions are available. You can receive an automatic four-month extension for any reason or no reason at all by simply filing IRS Form 4868 either over the phone or over the Internet. The one catch, and it is a big one, is that if you owe tax the IRS will charge you interest on the amount you owe from the original due date of April 15. If you are entitled to receive a refund, there is no penalty for filing late.

Military members serving in an officially declared combat zone are eligible to receive an interest-free extension on their federal tax returns. The extension also applies to the military member's spouse and will extend the filing date 180 days after your last day in the combat zone. In other words, if you served in a combat zone from November 2001 to May 2002 you would have until November 2002 to file your federal income tax return. For a detailed description of extending the tax deadline for those serving in a combat zone visit the following Web site: www.bankrate.com/qfn/news/special/19990416b.asp.

The lighthouse we call 'America'

LT. COL. JIM HAMRICK

Air Combat Command Headquarters

LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, Va. (AFPN) — Everyone is an individual beacon of dedication to our country and values. Combined, our beacons become a lighthouse for the entire world to see; a lighthouse for all free people; a lighthouse guiding us and those who reside in the most forlorn regions of the world.

When we stand tall and do the right thing, we light the way ahead and others follow.

Conversely, when our enemies see the strength of our light, they retreat to their hiding places. Our illuminating beam deters, detects and, if necessary, defeats the enemies of America and her allies.

How do we deter the enemy? We become beacons of professionalism. We carry out our duties with a new sense of resolve and commitment. We know our requirements and we execute them flawlessly. We document our lessons learned and tout our successes in public forums.

Let our enemies see our strength and know we are ready. They will be deterred.

How can we detect the enemy? We are sensors. Whether deployed far away or attending an event in the local community, remain vigilant. Always be on watch for the enemy. Illuminate the activities of those who wish to harm us.

We have resolve. Those enemies not deterred will feel our wrath. When the enemy attacks, we will defend and, if necessary, we will attack. Seek out the backwater strongholds of the enemy and destroy them. Attack the enemy out of the blackness of night skies, from the depths of the oceans and on cat feet in their own backyards. Defeat the enemy and reveal the foolishness of their ways in the light of explosions and the red glow of lasers.

Our lighthouse will shine for all free people even as we bring to justice the enemies of America. The world will witness the good will of Americans — the exhaus-

●SEE AMERICA PAGE 11

Gulf Defender Editorial Staff

Brig. Gen. William F. Hodgkins 325th FW commander
Capt. Chris Karns chief, 325th FW public affairs
2nd Lt. Serena Custis chief, internal information
Senior Airman Russell Crowe editor
2nd Lt. Ryan Fitzgerald staff reporter
Staff Sgt. Dan Neely staff reporter
Staff Sgt. Roel Utley staff reporter
Teresa Nooney News Herald staffer

The *Gulf Defender* is published by the *Panama City News Herald*, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. This commercial enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the *Gulf Defender* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense or Department of the Air Force.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts and supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the DOD, the Department of the Air Force or the *Panama City News Herald* of the products or services advertised.

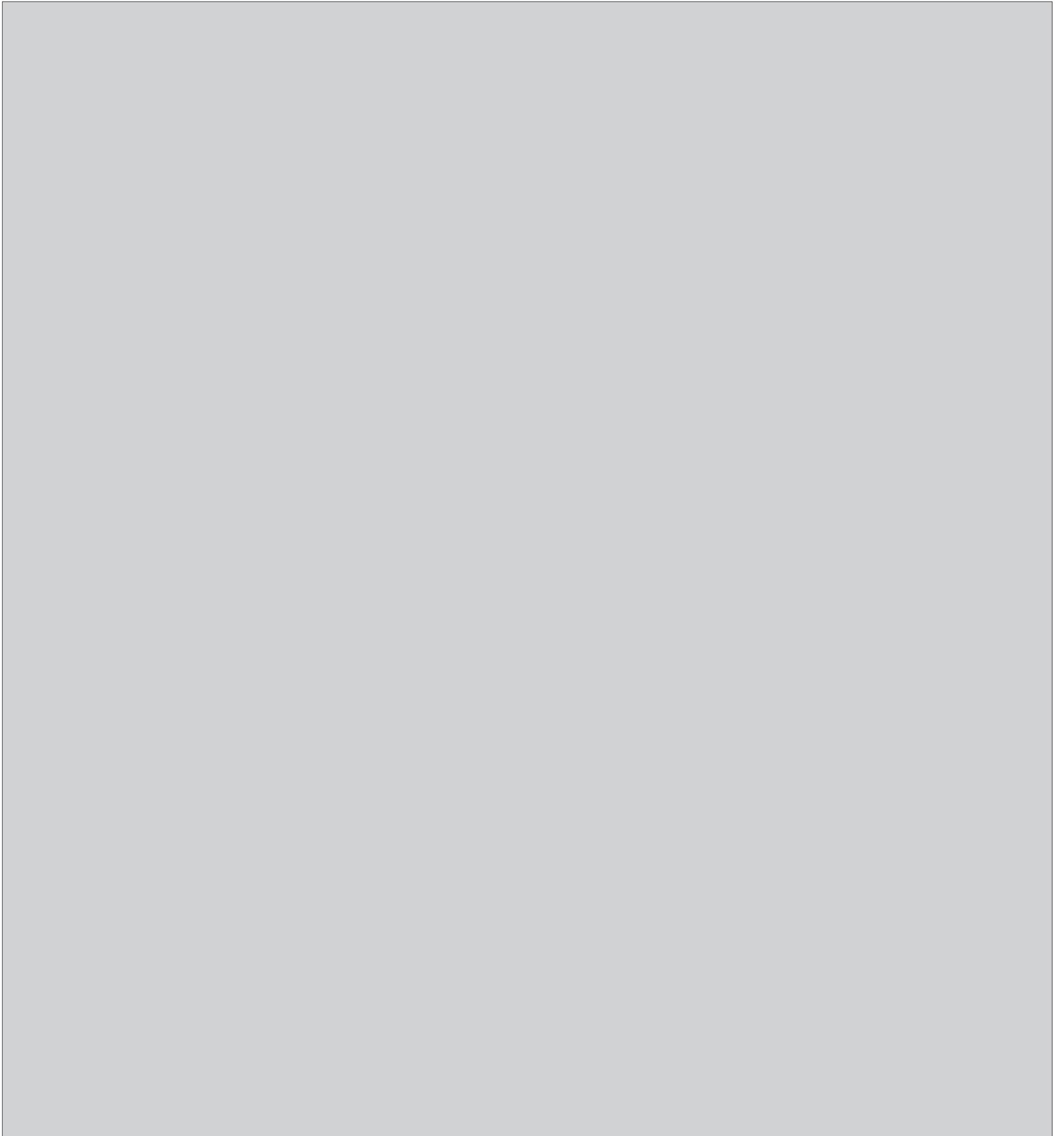
Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the pur-

chaser, user or patron.

Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the public affairs office at Tyndall. All photographs are U.S. Air Force photos unless otherwise noted.

The deadline for article submissions to the *Gulf Defender* is 4 p.m. Friday, prior to the week of publication unless otherwise noted. Articles must be typed and double-spaced, preferably on a 3.5-inch disc. Stories should be submitted directly to the public affairs office, Building 662, Room 129 or mailed to: 325 FW/PAI, 445 Suwannee Ave., Tyndall AFB, FL 32403-5425 or emailed to editor@tyndall.af.mil. Public affairs staff members edit all material for accuracy, brevity, clarity, conformity to regulations and journalistic style. The delivery of the *Gulf Defender* to Tyndall base housing sections is provided by the *Panama City News Herald*.

For more information, or to advertise in the newspaper, call (850) 747-5000.



●FROM TRAIN PAGE 1

“This is a huge step for this career field,” he said. “This training is something personnel troops can’t do at home. This is an opportunity for our folks to fine-tune deployment skills so when they are sent to a forward-operating location they are truly warriors.”

The course is one week long, and teams from several bases attend the training together, integrate as a team and build the base as a team – just like they would in a real-world deployment.

“We bring in PERSCO teams that are lined up together in Air Expeditionary Force buckets and give them the classroom training and field training they’re going to need to be able to deploy and function as a cohesive, viable team that will hit the ground running,” said Tech. Sgt. James Patterson, one of two Silver Flag PERSCO instructors.

When the teams arrive they spend their first three days of instruction in the classroom. They then spend the next two days in a simulated forward-deployed location. According to Sergeant Patterson, they often face problems they didn’t expect – and that’s when the real learning takes place.

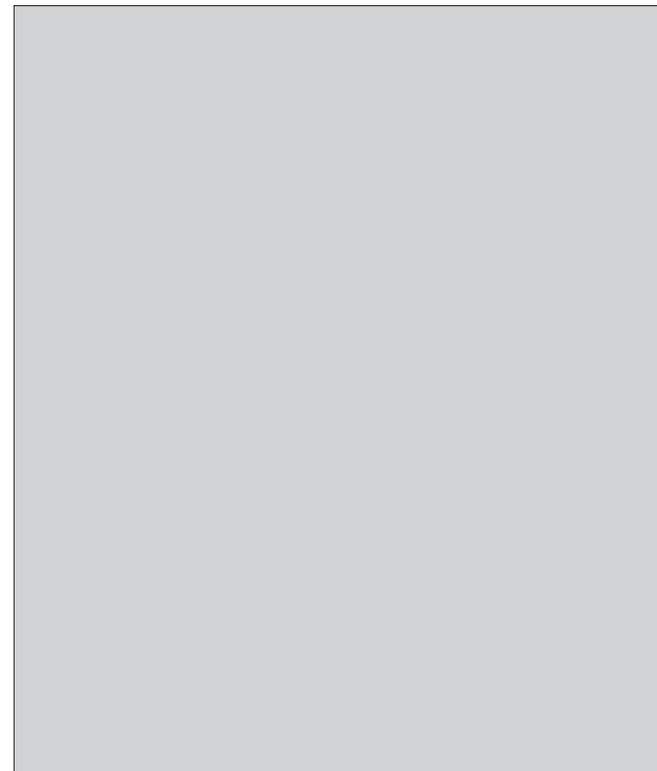
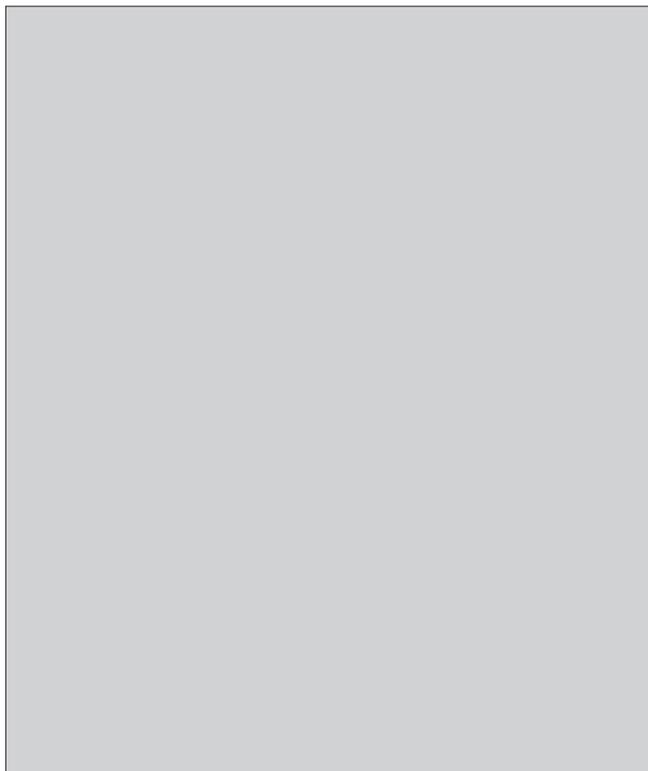
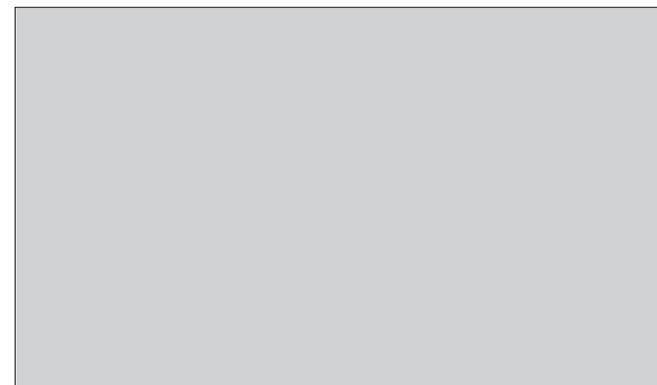
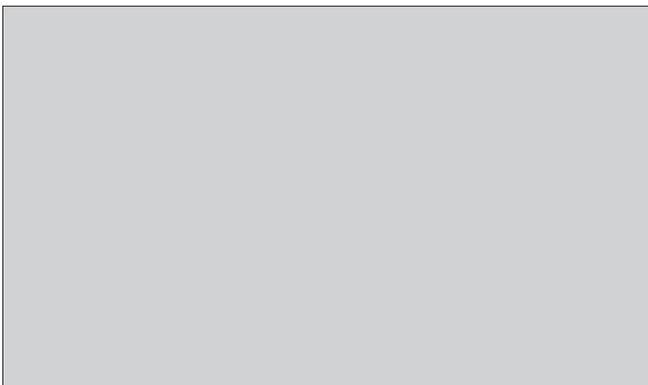
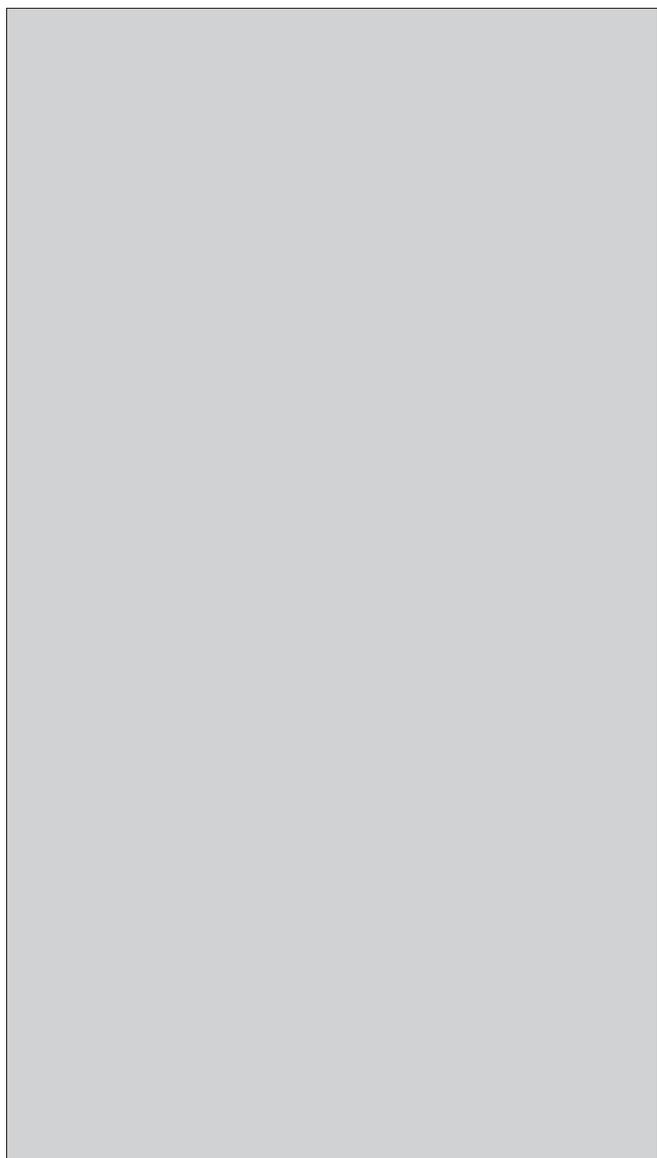
“A big problem for personnel is always getting connectivity,” he said. “They need to be able to pass strength accountability and get reach-back capability. That’s key. Without it, military planners have no accurate picture of forces in place or forces that are needed to sustain an operation.”

A team of airmen from Tyndall went through the course as a ‘pilot’ for the program – a way for the instructors to fine-tune the course and make changes before it officially kicked off.



Lisa Carroll

Maj. Gen. Michael McMahon, Air Force Personnel Center commander, sets off an explosive charge at the Silver Flag site on Tyndall Air Force Base recently. The general was here to officially welcome personnel troops into the field-training program. Following the ceremony, the general toured the facility, which included this detonation with Silver Flag explosive ordnance disposal troops.



Today in history

1807 At Eylau, Napoleon's Marshal Pierre Agureau attacks Russian forces in a heavy snow-storm.

1862 Union troops under Gen. Ambrose Burnside defeat a Confederate defense force at the Battle of Roanoke Island, N.C.

1887 Congress passes the Dawes Act, which gives citizenship to Indians living apart from their tribe.

1900 British General Buller is beaten at Ladysmith, South Africa as the British flee over the Tugela River.

1904 In a surprise attack at Port Arthur, Korea, the Japanese disable seven Russian warships.

1962 The U.S. Defense Department reports the creation of the Military Assistance Command in South Vietnam.

1971 South Vietnamese ground forces, backed by American air power, begin Operation Lam Son 719, a 17,000-man incursion into Laos that ends three weeks later in disaster.

● **FROM AWARDS PAGE 2**
by winning the **Special Achievement Award for Commander Support**. I salute the folks on my PA staff for doing their utmost to tell the Checkertail Clan's story to our internal audiences and the public. Congratulations and good luck at the Air Force competition.

I'm happy to announce **February is Black History Month**. Since Carter Woodson originated this observance in 1926, our nation has highlighted African-Americans' outstanding achievements and contributions to the very fabric of our national identity. We honor their remarkable past and present roles in our society and culture and eagerly look ahead to a promising future.

The 325th FW will be joining in this annual observance, and I encourage Team Tyndall people of all ethnic backgrounds to participate in, and learn from, our special activities. The Black

History Month luncheon takes place Feb. 20 in the Pelican Reef Enlisted Club and a Taster's Choice meal is slated for Feb. 27 at the chapel annex.

Once again, Tyndall Air Force Base will play host to some major events coming up as the **Special Olympics** takes place **March 16** and as we open our gates to the public **March 23-24 for Gulf Coast Salute 2002**. To help make these events another Team Tyndall success story, we'll definitely need plenty of volunteer support.

The Special Olympics needs 200 volunteers to work as escorts during this year's competition from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. All volunteers will need to attend the escort briefing at either 10 a.m. or 4 p.m. March 15 in the Weapons Evaluation Group auditorium, where organizers will detail the specific tasks involved. This is an excellent opportunity for our folks to get involved in

the community and in the lives of some very special athletes. I encourage everyone's involvement. To volunteer or learn more about this event, e-mail or **contact Capt. Lori Vessels at 283-3899**.

The air show committee also needs about 120 volunteers to help with setup, maintenance and tear-down activities from March 21-25. We simply can't make this year's open house happen without plenty of labor support. To get involved, simply ask your supervisor to submit your name, rank and duty phone number via e-mail to 2nd Lt. Douglas Long at Douglas.long@tyndall.af.mil or call him at 283-2967.

As you can see, there is plenty going on and many opportunities for Tyndall folks to get involved and make a difference. Thanks for your help, and have a great week!

Eligible members required to enroll in EFMP

SENIOR AIRMAN TIMOTHY PARKER
325th Medical Group

The Department of Defense mandates all active-duty airmen with family members with special medical and/or educational needs must enroll in the Exceptional Family Member Program. By identifying families with exceptional needs, EFMP ensures that the services needed by family members are available at Tyndall and in the local community.

Who has to enroll? ● Family members seeing a specialist on an on going basis. (Ex: Cardiologist, Endocrinologist, Psychiatrist/Psychologist, etc.). ● Family members who have

been hospitalized or seen frequently for the same medical condition on an outpatient basis for one year. ● Family members with a physical disability who might require a wheelchair or other assistance in daily living or functioning independently. ● Family members 3-years or older who have an Individual Education Plan (IEP) from a school for math, reading, speech, etc.

If you have family members who fall into any of the above categories, contact the Family Advocacy Program (FAP) at 283-7272 to discuss potential enrollment into the EFMP program.

Chapels offer Ash Wednesday services

CHAPLAIN (LT. COL.)
DAVE NIGOLIAN
325th Fighter Wing chaplain

Ash Wednesday, in Christian churches, is the first day of the season of Lent. Many Christians have ashes placed on their foreheads as a sign of penitence. When the ashes are placed on a forehead we are reminded of our mortality:

“Remember o man from dust you have come and to dust you shall return.”

Ashes are used because they are a biblical symbol of mourning and penance. In Bible times the custom was to fast, wear sackcloth, sit in dust and ashes, and put dust and ashes on one’s head. While we no longer normally wear sackcloth or sit in dust and ashes, the customs of fasting and putting ashes on one’s forehead as a sign of mourning and penance have survived to this day.



Airman 1st Class Diogenes Cruz

Chaplain Buddy Walker places ashes on 2nd Lt. David Gemas, 325th Air Control Squadron air battle manager student, as Senior Airman Jason Ainsworth, 325th Operational Support Squadron flight data recorder, waits.

There is a Protestant Ash service in Chapel 1 at noon Wednesday. The Catholic Ash service is in Chapel 2 at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday. Chaplain

Walker is also offering his Mobile Service of Ashes this year. He will come to duty stations anytime before 11 a.m. or after 2 p.m. If duties necessitate

a specific time for his visit, please call 283-2925 or 283-2367. The mobile service is offered for those whose duty precludes leaving their work area.

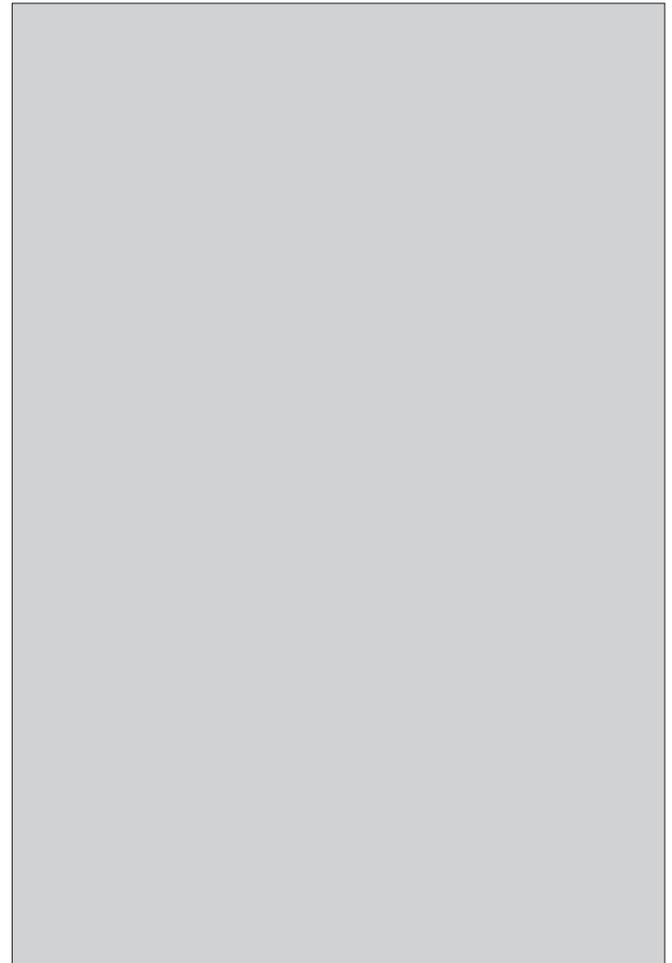
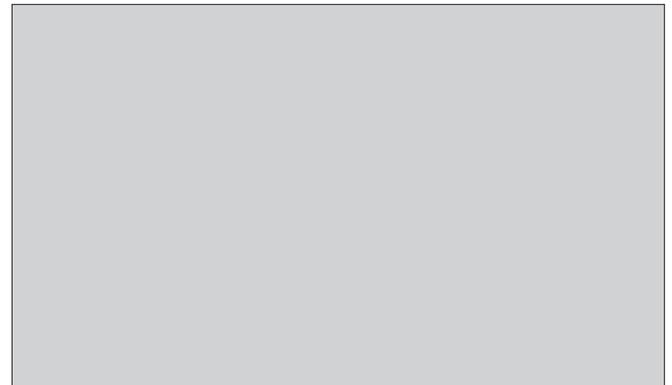
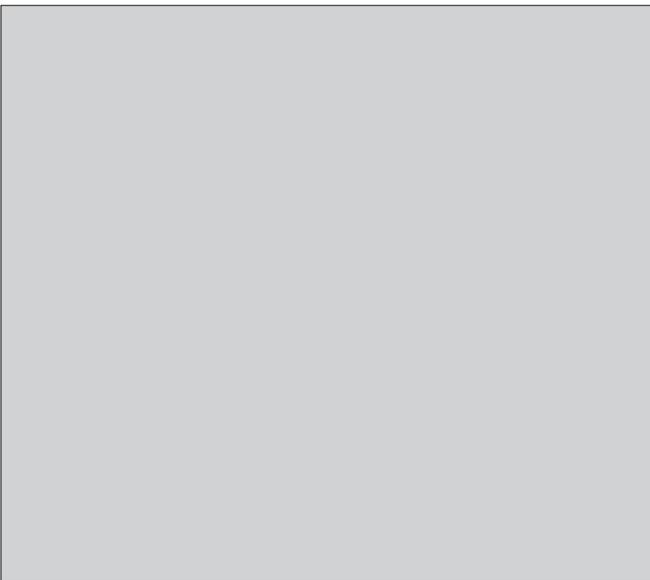
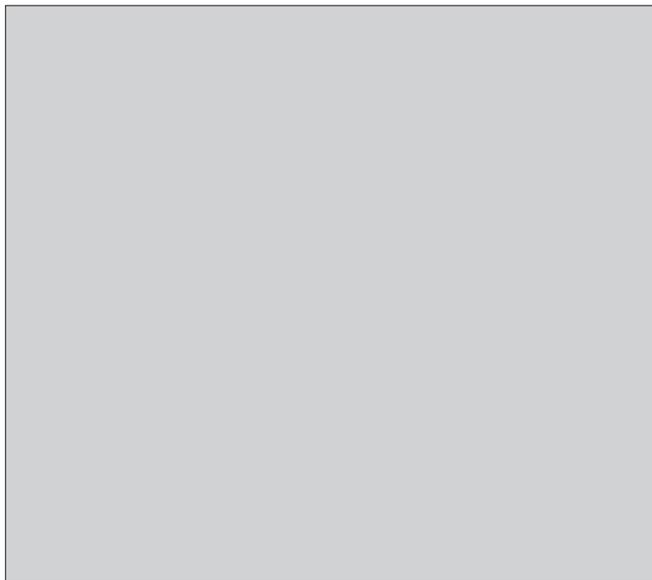
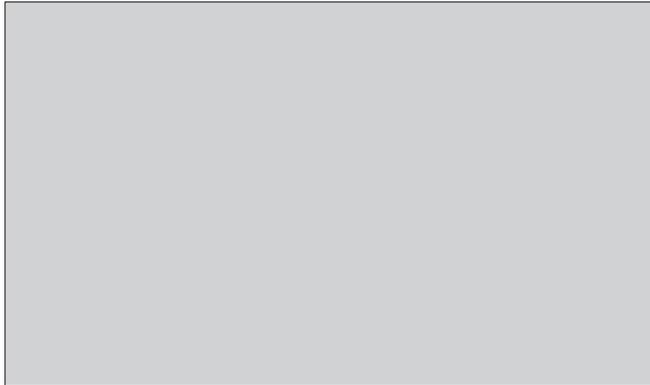
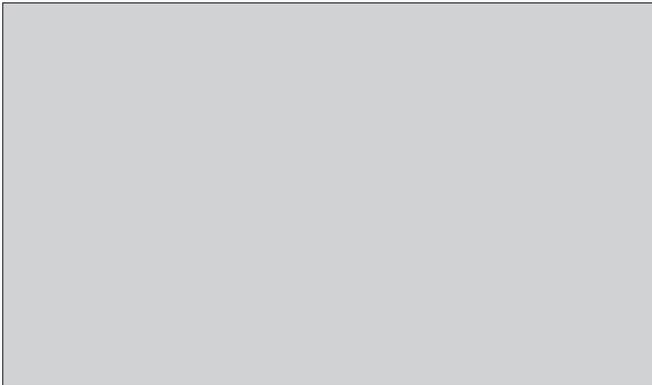
At a glance

● Ash Wednesday marks the onset of Lent, the 40-day period of fasting and abstinence. It is also known as the ‘Day of Ashes,’ so called because on that day at church the faithful have their foreheads marked with ashes in the shape of a cross.

● The name ‘Day of Ashes’ comes from “Dies Cinerum” in the Roman Missal and is found in the earliest existing copies of the Gregorian Sacramentary. The concept originated by the Roman Catholics somewhere in the 6th century. Though the exact origin of the day is not clear, the custom of marking the head with ashes on this day is said to have originated during the papacy of Gregory the Great (590-604).

● In the Old Testament, ashes appear to have been used for two purposes: as a sign of humility and mortality and as a sign of sorrow and repentance for sin. The Christian connotation for ashes in the liturgy of Ash Wednesday has also been taken from this Old Testament biblical custom.

● Receiving ashes on the head as a reminder of mortality and a sign of sorrow for sin was a practice of the Anglo-Saxon church in the 10th century. It was made universal throughout the Western church at the Synod of Benevento in 1091.



Week spotlights child passenger safety nationally

TECH. SGT. MICHAEL GRIFFITH

325th Fighter Wing safety office

Saturday to Feb. 16 has been declared National Child Passenger Safety Week. This is an annual campaign to remind the public of the importance and lifesaving benefits of correctly securing children in child safety seats and safety belts. In 2000 the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles reported that 128 children ages 0-15 were killed on Florida's roadways in motor-vehicle crashes and 18,241 were injured.

Of those killed or injured, 75 percent were unrestrained. Studies show, when used correctly, child safety seats are 71 percent effective in reducing fatalities in children under the age of five. Studies consistently show that the best way to get children buckled up is to get drivers buckled up. Research indicates that when a driver buckles up, children are buckled up 94 percent of the time. When a driver is un-

buckled, children are unbuckled 70 percent of the time. I urge all parents to have their child safety seat checked. The last clinic the safety office sponsored, revealed that 90 percent of all safety seats were installed incorrectly.

Remember, it is your responsibility to secure your children. During the National Child Passenger Safety Week there will be two clinics in the local area. The clinics are sponsored by Florida State Highway Patrol. Currently the safety office does not have certified personnel to sponsor a base clinic.

Child Safety Seat Clinics

Saturday	Feb. 16
Wal-Mart	Piggly Wiggly
23rd Street	Port St. Joe
10 a.m.- 2 p.m.	9 a.m.- noon

For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Michael Griffith at 283-4231.

Happy Valentine's Day to my best friends Sunshine, Sauce, Daley Bones, and Gonzo.
Enjoy the day of LOVE!
Your friend, Patty

To: Sheri, Meagan and Nicole
You are my Sweetest Valentine's and I love you all with all my heart.
From: Paul (Daddy)

Tammy,
God has truly blessed me with the most wonderful woman in the world. You have been there always and I could not ask you anymore than what you have given. I do know that love has kept us together and our love will endure forever.
All my love, Scott

Linda, You will always be my special valentine. I love you more now than ever!
Love Always
"Skip"

Mommy, we love you and want you to be our valentine forever.
Love, Alex and Claire H.

W: Our love began on the beaches of Padre and continues to grow on the shores of Tyndall.
With all my love,
CH

Charlotte, My sweetheart and valentine. I long to look in your eyes and think of every time I see some thing beautiful. You are the most important person on earth to me. I need you more and more even after 22 wonderful valentines days.
George

To my lovely wife of 19 years... Love ya, bye!
Benny

To my hubby - for Valentine's Day and our 34th Anniversary
Roses are Red
Violets are blue
I love you forever and ever
You are my tiger
I am your kitten
We are the same
Now and forever
Love always, Kitten

MLI
Tu sei la mia vita
All my love,
CCS

Susan,
I will never love anyone as I do you and I will love you forever. This love is as deep as my connection to God, for it is a part of that connection. In your eyes I see the hope of that which I believe, for your eyes are a window to the One. You are a gift from the eternal heart and I am truly humbled and in awe with every thought of you.....
All My Love,
Terry

Debby, I just wanted to say thanks for being a wonderful wife, mother, and teacher. I know most of the time your hard work and sacrifice seems to go unnoticed and unappreciated, but I want to reassure you that we love you and want to thank you for everything you do. Happy Valentines Day! Thanks for the past 18 years.
Love,
Your Honeybun



Will you marry me?

Love, P.A.



Forty four years is a long time to wait
For a friend or companion
But not a soul mate
Unwilling to settle for anything less
I waited for God to give me His best
He rewarded my patience on November fifth
At the Kun of all places, now I'm truly blessed
I love you Debra from Mike

To Charlotte,
I cannot express the love you have returned to me, the togetherness you instill in me, or the longing to be with you forever. Thank you for being made just for me. For yesterday, today, and tomorrow.....I love you Sweetheart.
LYBt,
Griff

To Mike Clere, the love of my life. Thank you for always loving, always forgiving, and always caring. You believed in me when no one else did, made me laugh when I felt like crying, and helped me reach for my dreams. Thank You. Forever yours.
Tammy

Marcus,
The love is as strong as ever. Lies and deceit brought upon our relationship by outsiders has only made our bond stronger and I "Thank" them for that. The road to eternity is finally straight and smooth, no one will take us off course.
I LOVE YOU BAY—Nikkia

To Crystal L. Lewis the love of my life,
I thank God everyday that you are mine,
And so grateful that you're my Valentine,
We have been together a year to date,
And everyday to me is great,
The way I feel is more than words can say,
So I will just say "I Love You" & Happy Valentines Day...
Love Always,
AIC Dominic T. Lewis

Eternity is the span between the times that I spend with you. I adore your gorgeous smile and do thoroughly love looking deep into your brown eyes for in them I see the hidden passages to the adventures and journeys that lie within. I will tirelessly wield the torch that will light the way to the depths of your heart.
NEXUS



Dear D.K.-
You have completed my life and filled my heart. I've never been happier than I am with you. Do you know how much I love you? More than anything in the world! I want to spend the rest of my life with you.

Chris,
I just wanted to let you know that you mean the world to me. I would be lost without you by my side. I love you. Happy Valentine's Day!
Your Wife, Brenda

Robert,
I love you more than words can say, you're my best friend you mean the world to me.
Love,
Bernadine Reams

The Love

To my Snuggle Bear,
May the rest of our days be as sweet as you.
Happy Valentine's Day, Honey.
T.D.D.U.P.
Love, your Tyger

Roses
Violets

Take a look
@ Tyndall airm

To: Robert
Wherever you go and whatever you do
I will be right here waiting for you
For now and forever, you will be my man
All my love,
Tigger

Moody,
I love every memory I have made with you and wish everyday to be right beside you. You have made every dream of mine come true.
Yours, always & forever-Kim xoxox

D.
Thanks for everything you do for us each and every day. Even though we might tell, we really do appreciate it. All out love.
H. B. & A.

To: My Husband
On this Valentine's Day, I want you to know that you have the key to my heart.
SHMILY

Daffy,
Happy Valentine's Day! The time is priceless.
Your Friend,
Torch

Daffy, you're #1! Pigeon, you're a PYT and #1 after Daffy!
JD

Hacksaw, you're a great friend!
Always, Peg Boy.

I Love You Valerie Johnson Because:
You're My partner and My companion
through good times and bad,
My friend and My buddy
through happy and sad,
Beside me you stand,
Beside me you walk,
You're there to listen,
You're there to talk,
With happiness,
With smiles,
With pain and tears,
And I know you'll be there throughout the years!
I Love You Babe! With all my heart!
Tim

Kim,
Somebunny Loves You!
Always & Forever!!
Chris

Happy Valentine's Day to my wonderful wife, Laura.
I want to tell you how special the time that we spend together is to me and how very much I love you.
Love, Todd

To Lisette, James, and Lindsey,
I know that my many hours spent at work and TDY away from home have caused you to handle much of life on your own. But please remember that it doesn't lessen the love I have for all of you.
Happy Valentine's Day, Your Husband and Father, Bruce

C.G (a.k.a. Fluffy)
Thanks for being a friend and may you have a blessed Valentine's Day with me.
Signed B.D. Johnson

Charlene,
It is hard to believe it has been nearly 11 years since we met and in love. You are the greatest wife and mother God could have give a husband and his children. I Love You!
Forever and Unconditionally Yours,
Michael

Barry,
Hello sweetie! I just wanted to wish you a Happy Valentine's Day. I love you today, tomorrow, and forever. Today is just another day, every day seems like Valentine's Day. I am thankful for you and looking forward to our future. I love you.
From your significant other, BEV

e Letters

are Red
are Blue



at these notes
an may love you

Sparky,
Thanks for spilling my
drink.
I love you sooooo much!!!
Your Shmoopie

Daffy,
We love you!
Pigeon & Torch

Dear "Carol",
"On the Road"
WE 2 RV
You are our "true love"
Happy Valentines Day
Love Ron and Baby

To Gabriela, the love of my life,
It has been 16 years of flower and candy swapping,
and I wouldn't trade it for the world. You make me a
complete person. The time has passed so quickly that it
just seems like yesterday outside of Shaw AFB that we
had met. I love you for all eternity. I hope the kids share
what we have in life.

Forever yours,
Love
Mike Riley

Little Bubba,
I'm so excited about our future together!
You win, game over!
Love Always,
Your Country Mouse

Vicki,
It seems like yesterday when
we first met. I blink and 20 years
have passed. You're more beau-
tiful today than ever. God blessed
me when He brought us together.
I Love You.
Tom

To my Punchkin,
You will always be my sweetheart.
Happy Valentines Day, Sweetie
Love, Daddy

Amber,
I wanted to let you know that I love you very deeply and
am very happy with the family that is growing up around
us. I miss you every time that we are apart and always look
forward to our reunion. I hope we will always be Valentines.
Love Allan

Keith, you are loved; first by
our Lord Jesus Christ, and next
by your family.
Becky

To Kyle,
Happy Valentine's Day! Thanks for
being such a great kid.
Love, Mommy and Daddy (Skeeter)

R.U.-
Second place is
the first loser.
Happy Valen-
tines Day!
Hugs and kisses.
Wildcat

Annabelle,
Before we were born, God took a Star from Heav-
ens above and broke it in half!
He placed one half in your soul and one in
mine! The magnetism of a star united us together
creating the brightest light in the universe! Our
Light! Our Love! Our Star!
Cowboy

To the Angel in my life;
My loving, thoughtful, caring
wife.
Happy Valentine's Day
Love, Charles

Ball and Chain,
After being shackled to you for the
first ten years of my life sentence, I am
still looking forward to finishing my
sentence without the possibility of pa-
role. Happy Valentine's Day!
Love always and forever,
Prisoner of Love (Skeeter)

Dear Joni,
Thank you for all the wonderful years
we've had together! You have been, are now,
and always will be the only love of my life!
Nobody could have a more perfect Valen-
tine than you! I love you!
Matt

Terry,
On this day candy and cards are given,
but I want to share with you the greatest
gift man can ever received, GOD gave
the world JESUS CHRIST to save the
world from their sins. So when you think
of something sweet what can be more
sweeter than a love like this.
I'm glad that we are covered.
Your Loving Wife,
Diane

To my husband, Andre, and my
daughter A'Maria:
You are two very special people in
my life and I love you more than any-
thing.
SiMone Bordeaux

A brief history of Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day started in the time of the Roman
Empire. In ancient Rome, February 14th was a holi-
day to honor Juno. Juno was the Queen of the Ro-
man Gods and Goddesses. The Romans also knew
her as the Goddess of women and marriage. The
following day, February 15, began the Feast of
Lupercalia. The lives of young boys and girls were
strictly separate.

However, one of the customs of the young people
was name drawing. On the eve of the festival of
Lupercalia the names of Roman girls were written
on slips of paper and placed into jars.

Each young man would draw a girl's name from
the jar and would then be partners for the duration
of the festival with the girl whom he chose. Some-
times the pairing of the children lasted an entire
year, and often, they would fall in love and would
later marry.

Under the rule of Emperor Claudius II, Rome
was involved in many bloody and unpopular cam-
paigns. Claudius the Cruel was having a difficult
time getting soldiers to join his military leagues.
He believed that the reason was that Roman men
did not want to leave their loves or families.

As a result, Claudius cancelled all marriages and
engagements in Rome. The good Saint Valentine
was a priest at Rome, back in the days of Claudius
II. He and Saint Marius aided the Christian mar-
tyrs and secretly married couples, and for this kind
deed Saint Valentine was apprehended and dragged
before the Prefect of Rome, who condemned him
to be beaten to death with clubs and to have his
head cut off. He suffered martyrdom on the 14th
day of February, about the year 270.

At that time it was the custom in Rome, a very
ancient custom, indeed, to celebrate in the month
of February the Lupercalia, feasts in honor of a
heathen god. On these occasions, amidst a variety
of pagan ceremonies, the names of young women
were placed in a box, from which they were drawn
by the men as chance directed. The pastors of the
early Christian Church in Rome endeavored to do
away with the pagan element in these feasts by sub-
stituting the names of saints for those of maidens.
And as the Lupercalia began about the middle of
February, the pastors appear to have chosen Saint
Valentine's Day for the celebration of this new feast.

So it seems that the custom of young men choos-
ing maidens for valentines, or saints as patrons for
the coming year, arose in this way.

(Archived information)



●FROM AEF PAGE 1

working hard to come up with a solution, a very small number of career fields may not be able to rotate as scheduled, he said.

“We know that there are some stressed career fields, such as security forces, combat communications and firefighters, that might have to stay a little longer,” General Kohler said. “But that’s not to say that absolutely everyone in those career fields will be staying longer.”

The deployment picture will start to come into focus by the middle of February when the Air Force begins scheduling for the rotation in March, he said.

“It might work out that only one or two unit type codes out of an entire civil engineering squadron might be the stressed career field,” General

Kohler said. “We just don’t know yet because we haven’t gotten down to that level of fidelity.”

The tremendous performance of the AEF in Operation Enduring Freedom is what caused the stress on certain career fields in the first place, General Kohler said.

“The Air Force is sort of a victim of its own success,” General Kohler said. “The reason we are stressed is simple — we do such a great job. We went out and set up these bases and started generating sorties as soon as we were asked. I think the results speak for themselves in the war on terrorism in Afghanistan. The (U.S.) Central Command commander in chief could not

have done what he did without the superb work of all the airmen who went out and set it up.”

To ease the problems the Air Force has in stressed career fields under current requirements, about 10 percent of the people will stay deployed a little longer — some up to 135 days; others, up to 179 days, General Kohler said. To cover the overlap, the second part of the solution will be to reach into the next AEF and bring replacement unit type codes forward about 45 days. Any reduction in current requirements may get the AEF cycle on track a little bit quicker, he said.

Another way to relieve some of the burden on our deployed people is to find additional airmen who normally do not deploy and place them in an AEF library.

“This crisis has caused us to look a little bit deeper,” General Kohler said. “We’d like to be able to find people who we haven’t originally had in an AEF library who can deploy but normally don’t deploy. For example, Air Education and

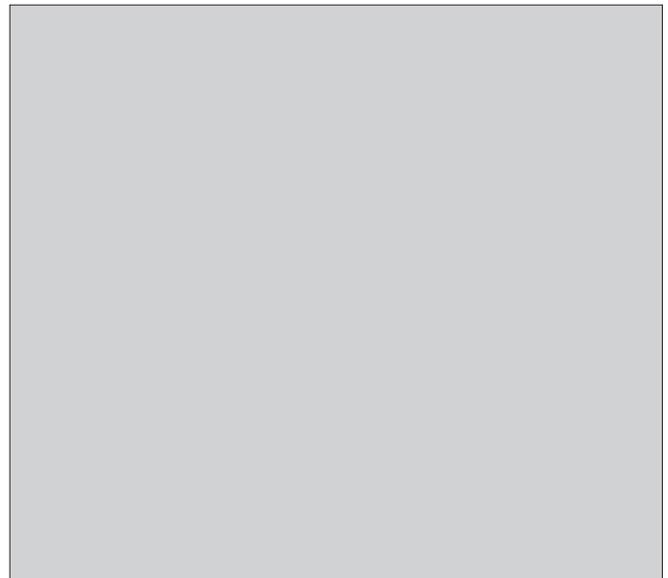
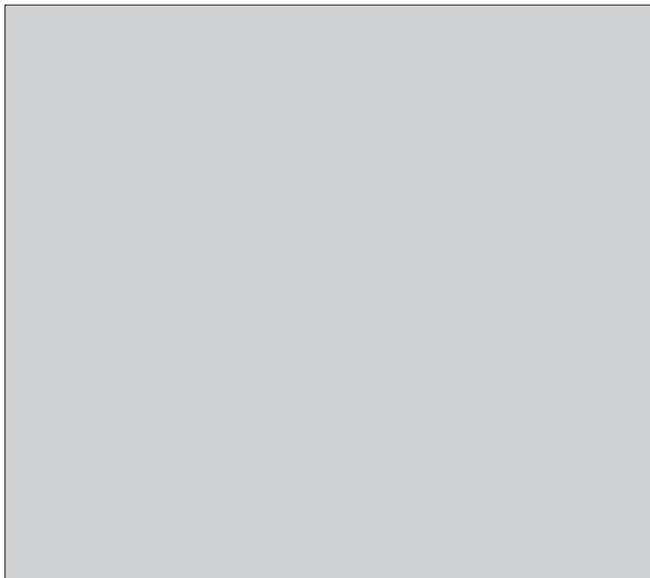
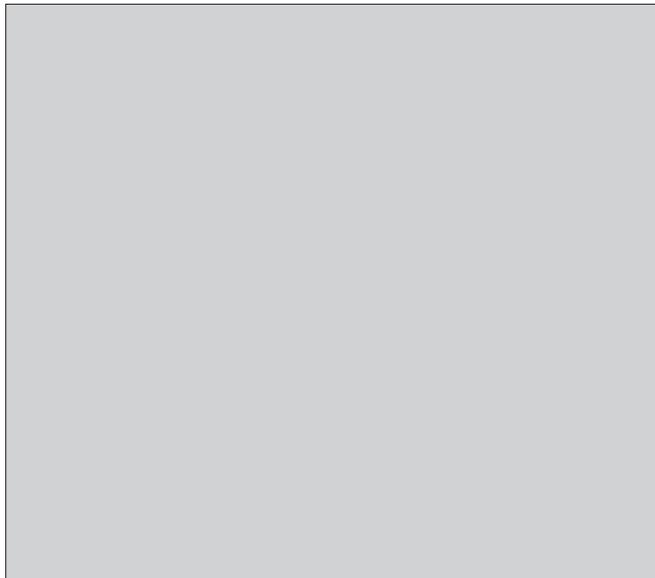
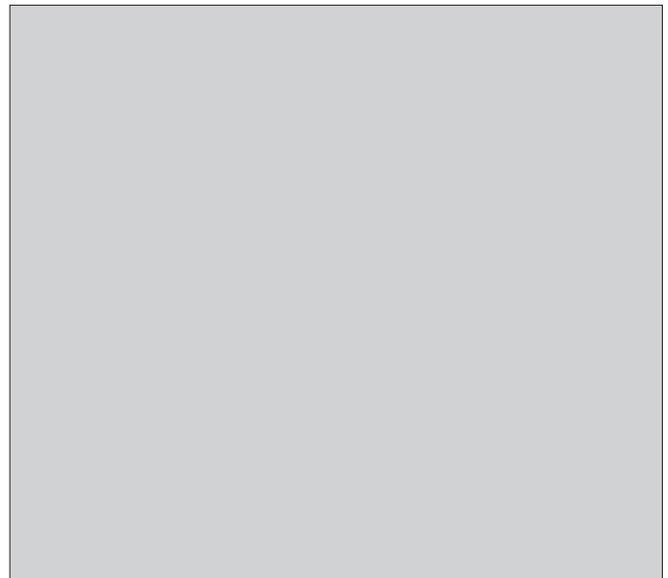
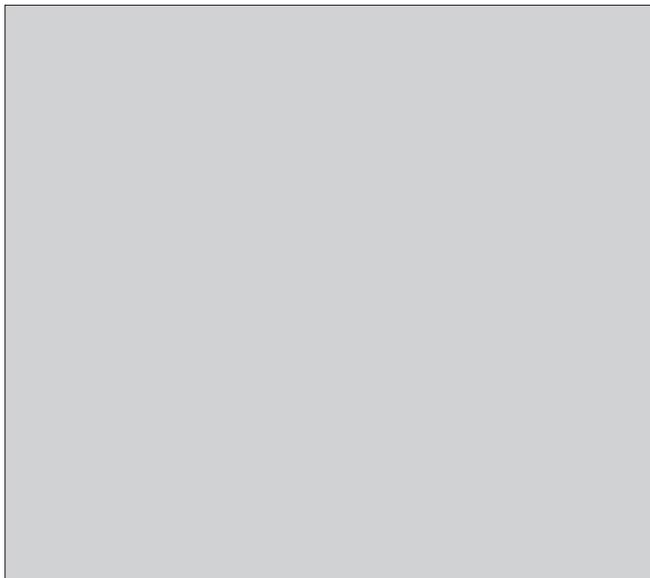
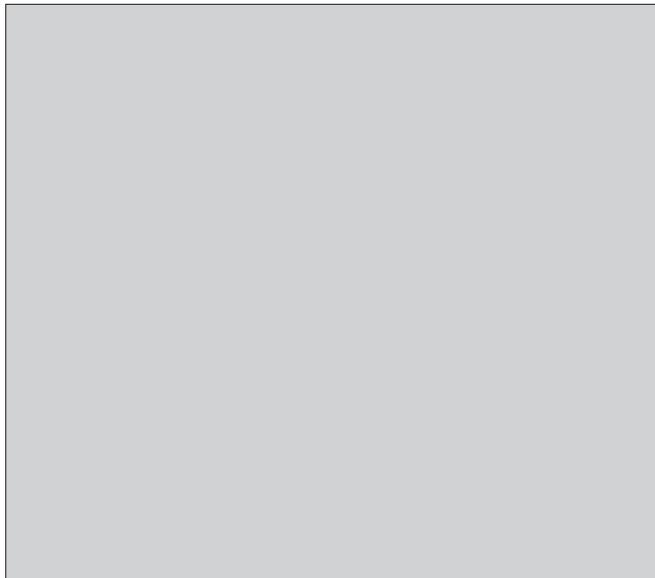
Training Command has instructors who have special skill sets, and the AETC leadership has said that there may be periods in the year when they can rotate. This is just one example and we’re looking at all options.”

Other fixes for stressed career fields are going to take some time and may only be resolved with increased manpower. Although the Air Force has asked for an end-strength increase of about 22,000 with 7,000 requested for this year, because of training requirements, this is more of a long-term solution, General Kohler said.

“This is an extraordinary time for the Air Force and our country,” General Jumper recently told commanders. “The nation is grateful for the sacrifices our airmen continue to make in meeting our commitments to fight the war on terrorism and defend the American homeland. The secretary and I are proud of the job you are doing and we are personally committed to maintaining the AEF rotation schedule to the greatest possible extent.”

“The nation is grateful for the sacrifices our airmen continue to make in meeting our commitments to fight the war on terrorism and defend the American homeland.”

GEN. JOHN JUMPER
Air Force chief of staff



Contact center changes number

AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER -The Air Force Contact Center here has changed its toll-free number to handle an expected increase in workload as new services for airmen come online.

Anyone with personnel-related inquiries should now call (866)229-7074 (the DSN number, 665-2949, has not changed) or visit the Web site at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/

mpf/CallCenter/contactcenter.htm.

The most common calls to the contact center concern pay problems, return to service, information about emergency operations, the Korean War Service Medal, sexual harassment complaints, general personnel programs and more.

"This change is part of getting ready for the expanded Virtual Military Personnel Flight customer

service platform that will be released Feb. 22," said Lt. Col. David Zeh, chief of the Air Force Contact Center.

The contact center, which handles basic inquiries for more than 80 personnel subject areas, handled more than 80,000 calls and e-mails last year. That number includes more than 34,000 calls from Korean War veterans and more than 3,900 calls from people with pay problems.

●FROM AMERICA PAGE 2

tive efforts taken to minimize civilian casualties and care for people displaced in war-torn regions. Our actions will illuminate the vast differences between our enemies and us.

As an American, you are a beacon for

the world. Your beacon is part of a lighthouse that guides the people of the world toward freedom and away from dictators, tyrants and demagogues. Always shine your light proudly for all to see. You are part of the lighthouse called America.

Your link
to what's going on

Gulf Guide

in the
Tyndall community

FEBRUARY

FRI

8

Racing car exhibit

The commissary will have the TIDE racing car on site for viewing 10 a.m.-5 p.m. today.

Robinhood Sandwich Shoppe

The Robinhood Sandwich Shoppe is now located in Building 532. The hours of operation are 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. For more information, call 286-8288.

MON

11

'Moms, Pops & Tots'

The parent and child interaction play group, "Moms, Pops & Tots," for parents and their under-age-five children meets on Mondays. For more information and meeting locations, call

286-5812.

TUE

12

Coastal navigation course

The Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 16 basic coastal navigation course is 7-9 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in Gulf Coast Community College's Student Union East building, Gibson lecture hall, Room 231. The course ends Feb. 28. For more information, call John Clark, 271-3828, or visit the flotilla Web site at: <http://clik.to/USCGAUXFlotilla16>.

Safe boating course

The Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 19 boating skills and seamanship class will be 7-9 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Navy Coastal Systems Station. The course runs through March 14. For more information, call 215-2025.

WED

13

Civil Air Patrol meeting

Civil Air Patrol meetings for boys and girls 12 years old and older will be held 6-8:30 p.m. every Tuesday in Building 852. The CAP offers local and national activities with a focus on educational and professional development. For more information, call Capt. Laura Palm, 283-7594, or Master Sgt. Perry Newberry, 283-4189.

Protestant youth group

The Tyndall Chapel's Protestant Youth Group meets 5-7 p.m. Wednesdays at Chapel 2. For more information, call the Chapel 2 office, 283-2925.

THU

14

Food demonstration

A "Love Me Tender" food demonstration featuring food that's good for the heart will be noon Thursday in the health and wellness center. For more information, call 283-3826.

Palace Chase briefing

Palace Chase briefings for all those interested in the Palace Chase program will be 1 p.m. on the second and fourth Thursday of each month in Room 222 of Building 662. For more information, call in-service recruiter Master Sgt. Bill Beasley, 283-8384.

NOTES

Sewer problems

The base contractor and the sewer contractor are currently experiencing problems with large amounts of grease in the sewer and sink traps and are asking that grease not be disposed of in drains.

New Hampshire Air National Guard openings

Immediate part-time New Hampshire Air National Guard positions are available. For more information, call (800) 257-9368, or DSN 852-2798. For more information, visit the Air National Guard Web site at: www.nhpeas.ang.af.mil.

Troy State ROTC program

A college degree and part of a graduate degree can be completed with ROTC in two years at Troy State University. For more information, contact the base education office, 283-4449, or call Captain Rob Jayme, (334) 670-3383. Additional information can be found on the Troy State Web site, www.troyst.edu. Select "Academics" then "Air Force ROTC."

Olympics escorts needed

Volunteer escorts are needed for the Special Olympics 7 a.m.-4 p.m. March 16. Anyone interested in volunteering may call Capt. Lori Vessels, 283-3899. For general information, call 2nd Lt. Ryan Nash, 283-2218.

Climate survey

The 2002 Air Force Chief of Staff Climate Survey will continue through March 8. For more information, visit the survey Web site at: csafsurvey.af.mil.

W-2 forms

Anyone who has not received a W-2 by Feb. 15 may go to the finance office's customer service counter and fill out a W-2 request form. The W-2 should be ready for pickup within 24 hours.

Beakman's World exhibit

The Junior Museum of Bay County's newest exhibit, Beakman's World on Tour, based on the TV show, "Beakman's World," will run through May 11. The exhibit will include sections on rain forests, the universe, the human body, dinosaurs, famous scientists and fun physics. For more information, call the museum, 769-6128.

Apalachicola Chefs Sampler

The 6th Annual Forgotten Coast Chefs Sampler will be 6-9 p.m.

Sunday at the Fort Coombs Armory, located on 4th Street and Avenue D in Apalachicola. In addition to a wide selection of food, there will be a silent auction featuring weekend accommodation packages and gift certificates. For ticket information, call the Apalachicola Bay Chamber of Commerce office, (850) 653-9419.

Survivor benefit plan annuity

The National Defense Authorization Act of 2002, signed into law by President Bush on Dec. 28, 2001, changes who is entitled to receive an active-duty death Survivor Benefit Plan annuity. The new law provides that a SBP annuity be paid – retroactive to Sept. 10, 2001 – to the spouse, dependent children or former spouse (if court ordered) of any active-duty member who dies in the line of duty regardless of years of service. For more information on active-duty SBP coverage, visit: <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/SBP/actduty.htm>.

Gulf Coast Salute

Tyndall's Gulf Coast Salute open house and air show will be March 23-24. The show is open to the public with free admission and parking. The United States Navy's Aerial Demonstration Team, the Blue Angels will highlight the event in addition to several military demonstration teams. The show will also feature civilian aerial demonstrations, numerous ground displays, events, children's activities, food and games. For more information, visit the official Web site at: www.gulfcoastsalute.homestead.com or call 283-8579.

RETIREE NEWS

Identity theft update

Personnel separating from the military are now being advised to ignore the old recommendation to file their Department of Defense Form 214 – Military Discharge – with their local county courthouse. Once the DD214 is filed at a local courthouse it becomes a public record. Some courthouses have put this information on line, and even more plan to do so in the future. Transition counselors are now advising service personnel to safeguard their personal information to guard against credit fraud in the same way vital papers such as wills, marriage licenses and insurance papers are safeguarded. Safe deposit boxes are recommended as good investments. The transition center is also no longer placing Social Security Numbers on discharge and retirement certificates to help guard against identify theft.

Between 600,000 and 700,000 cases of identity theft were reported by the Federal Trade Commission in 2000. According to the FTC, identity theft is the fastest growing crime today, and many victims don't find out that their personal information has been stolen until they are trying to buy a house or get a loan. The following list of tips can help safeguard your identity: Keep your Social Security card in a safe place – do not carry it with you. Be careful about giving your Social Security Number to others. Banks, employers and the IRS at tax time will need your number, but always make sure you know to whom you are giving your number and how they will use it. You can refuse to give your Social Security Number, but that business or agency is not required to give you service if you do.

If you have good reason to suspect that someone is misusing your Social Security Number, report it immediately to Social Security's Fraud Hotline, (800) 269-0271.

YARD SALES

There are no yard sales scheduled for Saturday.

BASE THEATER

Today: "Ocean's 11"
Saturday: 2 p.m. "Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius" (G, 82 min.)
7 p.m. "Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius"
Sunday: "Ocean's 11"
All movies start at 7 p.m.

Tigers split with dragons; in three-way tie for second place

COURTESY OF THE TYNDALL TIGERS

The Tyndall Tigers Men's Varsity Basketball Team split their two-game set with the Keesler Dragons in Southeastern Military Athletic Conference (SEMAC) action as the two squads played back-to-back games this past Saturday. The Tigers won convincingly 91-66 in the first contest, but fell by the score of 78-73 in the second.

Tyndall-91, Keesler-66

In Saturday's first game, the Tigers dominated from the outset fueled by Redd Batiste's 15 first-half points and aggressive defensive pressure. Tyndall enjoyed a 53-35 halftime lead. In the second half, the Tigers substituted liberally while refusing to allow the Dragons to mount a serious challenge to get back into the game to win going away.

Redd Batiste and Israel Figueroa led

Tyndall in scoring with 21 and 14 points respectively, followed by Marvin Gamble with 12, and Marcus Baucom, Malik Taylor and Tarrance Garner all with 10 points. Garner led in both rebounding (11) and assists (9), as he barely missed a triple double.

Keesler-78, Tyndall-73

After a 90-minute break, the two teams tipped it off again. The Tigers momentum from the first game carried over into the second as they enjoyed an early lead only to see the Dragons battle back to trim Tyndall's lead to eight points, 35-27 at the intermission. In the second half, the Tigers suffered a 5-minute scoring drought while the Dragons connected on three out of four 3-pointers to capture the lead. With 1:26 remaining to be played, Keesler led by five points, 71-66, and went into their delay game forcing the Tigers to foul. The Dragons connected on seven out

of eight free throws to seal their victory.

The Tigers' loss ruined a brilliant performance by guard Redd Batiste who led in both scoring and rebounding with 27 and 13 respectively, followed by Scott Moore with 12 points, and Israel Figueroa and Marcus Baucom with 10 points each; Figueroa and Baucom tied in assists with six each. Robin Sikes led Keesler in scoring with a game-high 32 points.

Tyndall is tied for second place with Eglin and Fort Benning—all with 10-8 conference records, one game behind first place Hurlburt Field (11-7) heading into the final week of regular season play. This weekend the Tigers will travel to Eglin to take on the Eagles with a chance of vaulting into first place. Game times are 3 p.m. Saturday and noon Sunday. Next weekend Eglin will host the SEMAC Men's Tournament.



Courtesy photo

Tyndall split their weekend games and are now tied for second place.

Air Force continues its association with NASCAR

WASHINGTON (AFP) — The Air Force will continue its association with the Wood Brothers Racing No. 21 Ford Taurus for the upcoming 2002 NASCAR Winston Cup racing season.

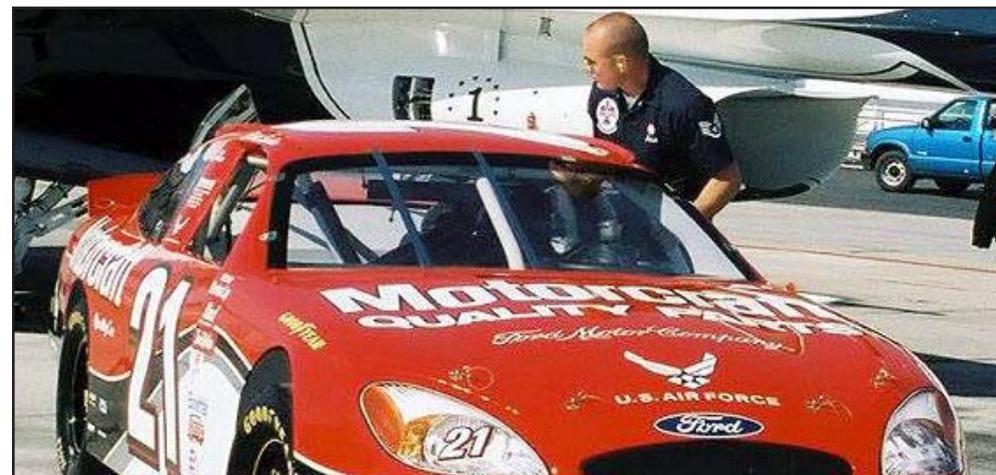
The car, driven by Elliott Sadler and sponsored by Motorcraft, Ford Motor Company's parts brand, will feature the Air Force symbol on its hood and quarter panels. There will also be a special Air Force paint scheme

at two races during the 2002 season.

The Air Force is conducting an aggressive recruiting campaign to attract more than 37,000 new recruits this year for jobs in more than 200 areas ranging from air traffic controllers and computer operators to jet engine mechanics and medical technicians. The service also needs hundreds of doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and engineers and plans to award more than \$60 million in ROTC scholar-

ships before October.

The Air Force and the No. 21 car share the same strategy of using teamwork, technology, speed and information superiority to outsmart whatever situation it faces, recruiting officials said. The service will continue to use its involvement in NASCAR as part of its overall plan to get more young men and women, especially those with mechanical and electrical aptitudes, interested in an Air Force career.



Staff Sgt. Eric Grill

A member of the Air Force Thunderbirds Aerial Demonstration team climbs out of the NASCAR Wood Brothers No. 21 Ford Taurus last year.

Funshine NEWS

February 8, 2002

This page is produced by the 325th Services Marketing office, 283-4565.

Community Activities Center

☎ 283-2495

Ping-Pong Tournament

Feb. 16, 1 p.m. Best 2 out of 3. Double elimination. Awards for 1st and 2nd place.

Just for Mardi Gras

Beignet Cooking Class

Feb. 12, 5-6:30 p.m. Cost: \$5 per person. Beignets and Coffee for all afterwards. Register by Feb 7. For further information or to register, call 283-2495.

Watch for the ITT Travel Fair coming to FamCamp on March 22

Vendors representing a variety of travel destinations will be present. Call 283-2499 for more info.

The Marina Club now offers Pizza on Friday Nights, 5-8 p.m. Carry out or Dine-In Call 283-3059 for more information.

Family Child Care

☎ 283-2266

Licensing Requirements

Base housing residents providing child care, in their home are required to be licensed by the Air Force. Contact the Family Child Care office for details.

Library Volunteer \$2 a Bag Book Sale

February 7-10
283-4287



All Ranks
Valentine's Dinner
Thursday, February 14
\$31.95 per couple
Tenderloin, Lobster Tail & Glass of Wine
Seatings at 6 p.m and 7:45 p.m
Limited Seating - Reservations strongly recommended
Officers' Club • 283-4357

Coming to the O' Club Feb. 8

Oyster Bar

Opens in Checkers

Combat Bar Opening

4:30 p.m.



283 4357

Cupid's Cruise

AETC Club members,
eat at your AF Club
Feb. 1-28 for a chance
to win a cruise!



Cartoon Network Bowling Club

Begins April 14
Program runs 16 weeks.
Cost is \$8.75 for ball and plus
bowling (\$4.50 adult - \$3.00 youth)
The cost of bowling is based on
3 games.

Call 283-2380 for details.

Vet Clinic

☎ 283-2434
Closed Feb. 8, 15 & 18

Skills Development Ctr.

☎ 283-4511

Special Hours

The center will be closed on Feb. 19.

Automotive Class

Tire Rotation and Balancing Class
Feb. 27 from 6-7 p.m. Class is limited
to 5 students.

Skills Development Ctr.

☎ 283-4511

Special Hours

The center will be closed on Feb. 19.

Automotive Class

Tire Rotation and Balancing Class
Feb. 27 from 6-7 p.m. Class is limited
to 5 students.

Aero Club

☎ 283-4404

Unsure About Flying?

Schedule an orientation flight and see
what you have been missing. Call Bill or
Vicki at for more information.



Pelican Point Golf Course Sweetheart Couples Tournament February 10, 2002

Shotgun start at noon
Cost: \$20 per couple
Members pay additional cart & greens fee
Non-members pay an additional \$20
Format: 2 person best ball
Wine & Cheese tasting after play
Deadline for signups: Noon, February 8
For more information call: **283-4389**

Tyndall Fitness Center

MUSCLE BEACH 2002

March 30, 2002

Competition begins at 10 a.m. Weigh-Ins begin at 8 a.m.
This competition is open to all Active Duty, Reservist, DOD employees,
Government Contractors, Retirees, family members and all local residents.
Participants must be 16 yrs. of age or older.

Events Include:

- Power Lifting: Bench Press, Squat & Dead Lift
- Bench Press

Register by Mar. 15, 2002

For more information call 283-2631.





Staff Sgt. Brendan Kavanaugh

Tunnel vision

The No. 21 National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing race car, also known as the Air Force car, prepares to enter a wind tunnel at the Langley Aerospace Research Center in Virginia. The owners of the car recently visited the NASA facility, located next to the base, to test four of their cars. The Air Force has been advertising on the No. 21 car since 2001 to tell racing fans about the Air Force and to help reach recruiting goals.

